

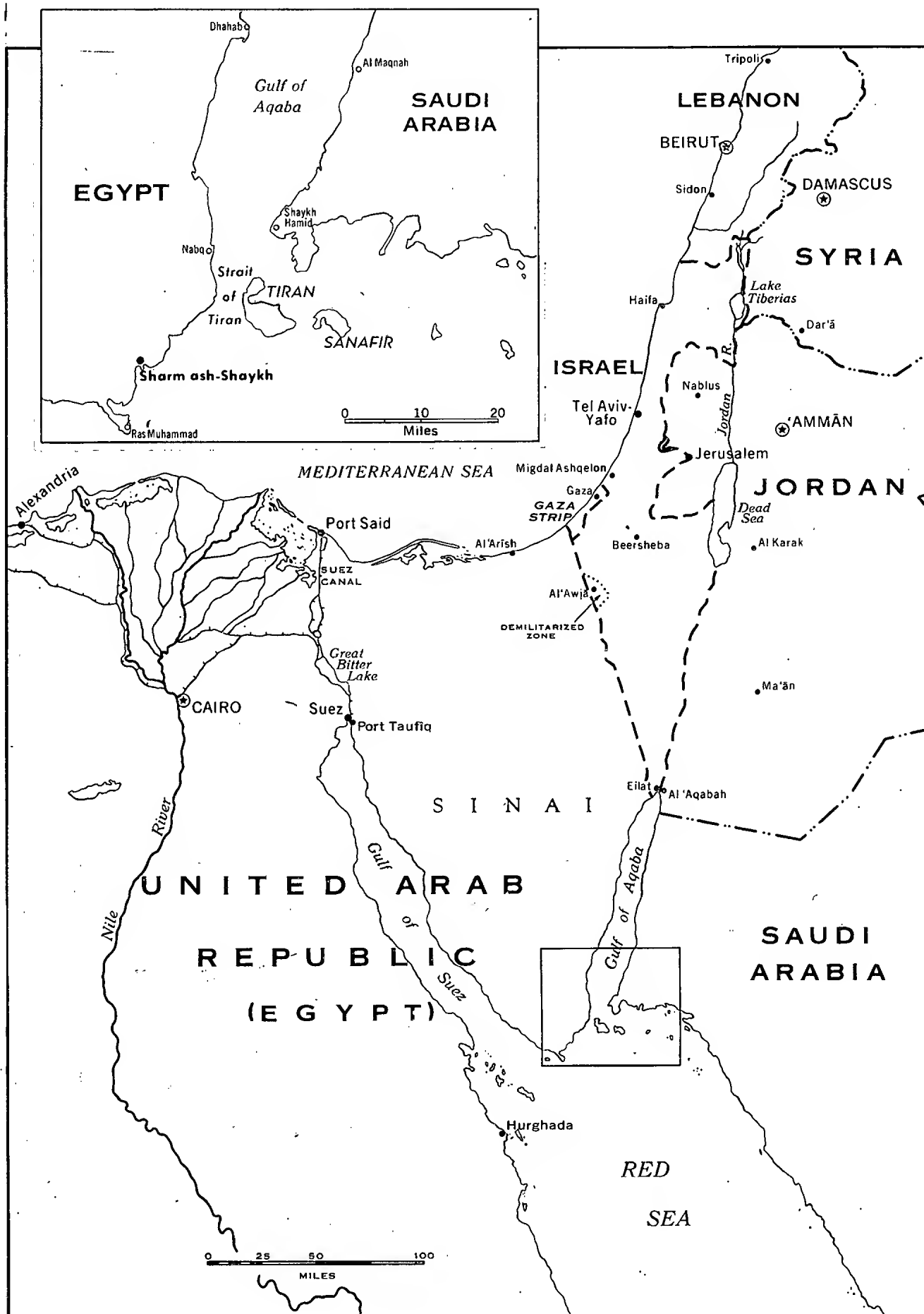


The President's Daily Brief

~~Top Secret~~ 26 May 1967



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DAILY BRIEF
26 May 1967

1. Arab States -
Israel

Both sides continue to marshal their forces, but the blockade of the Gulf of Aqaba has not yet been challenged. The Egyptians are patrolling the Straits of Tiran. The next vessel believed due there bound for Israel could appear today

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Egyptian troops in the Sinai peninsula are rapidly improving their positions, but we see no indication that an attack by these forces is imminent. There are some signs that Israeli ground forces--already estimated to be 50 percent mobilized--may have been further increased.

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2. North Vietnam

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3. Vietnam

The latest reference to an imminent kick-off day for some kind of offensive activity is in a Viet Cong document picked up recently near Saigon.

The document is about two weeks old and states that 29 May has been "reconfirmed" as the opening day of the summer campaign. It goes on: "Consequently, all units must urgently complete their preparations so that the fire in the opening phase will be well coordinated, spectacular, and continuous."



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signs could point to Communist plans for coordinated offensive operations in several areas of the country early next week.

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4. West Germany

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5. Hong Kong

The local scene remains relatively quiet.

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there are signs that the Communist agitators are now uncertain as to what, if anything, to do next. Our Consul General feels that Peking and the local leftists overestimated the latter's capabilities, underestimated those of the Hong Kong government, and miscalculated the reactions of the local populace.

6. Soviet Union

A long standdown in manned space flights appears likely. The Soviets have used a newspaper article by cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin to admit that investigation of the Soyuz 1 catastrophe will be long and complex.

Gagarin, however, divulged only the parachute malfunction, while insisting everything else was fine and dandy.

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